The Chairperson
Senate Committee enquiring into the regulatory standards
for the approval of medical devices
Parliament of Australia
Canberra ACT

29th June 2011

Dear Sir/Madam

I was a recipient of a metal on metal hip replacement in January 2008. My surgeon was the partner of , one of the researchers into the technology and the development of the De Puy ASR XL Hip implant. insisted upon fitting the De Puy device, despite my wish for to use a ceramic implant.

I had three subsequent operations, the last one on 23 December 2010 and have experienced major issues with my health and wellbeing because of the metal poisoning involved with the De Puy hip. My cobalt levels are still high and affect my health considerably.

I request that your committee consider requiring that in the future, the National Joint Registration order the immediate ceasation of use of any such devices once a fault has been reported, until proper checks can be carried out into the reason for the problem. In the case of the De Puy ASR, the signs were already apparent that these prosthesis were causing problems well before mine was fitted.

My thanks to the committee and the sponsor/s of this enquiry for looking into this matter, it gives me hope that in future there will not be further unnecessary suffering due to a lack of proper recall procedures